

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed and considered the Election of Species Requirement mailed on March 16, 2006.

Affirmation of Election

The Election of Species Requirement indicated that election to one of the following species was required:

Species A: Figures 1-3

Species B: Figure 4

Species C: Figure 5

Species D: Figures 7-13

Species E: Figures 14 and 15

Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, the invention of Species D and claims 1-11 and 17-23.

The Species Requirement is traversed on the basis that if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits. M.P.E.P. §803. Additionally, the Election of Species is traversed on the basis that an Election of Species is optional. M.P.E.P. §806. Finally, it is submitted that Applicant should not be required to incur the additional costs associated with the filing of multiple applications in order to obtain protection for the claimed subject matter.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 236-0122 to facilitate prosecution of this matter.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS AMENDMENT Commissioner of Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 17th day of April, 2006.

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Respectfully Submitted,
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By their Representatives,
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By: [Signature]

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(Monday)